

Remarks

Claims 1, 3, 17 and 19 are amended herein to further clarify the invention, claims 4, 8, 10, 11, 13 and 18 are cancelled herein, and new claims 21-26 are presented herein. Claims 2, 5-7, 9, 12, 14-16 and 20 remain unchanged from the originally filed claims. No new matter has been added.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that the application contains claims directed to six patentably distinct species. Accordingly, for the purpose of furthering prosecution, Applicant elects Species B corresponding to Figs. 5-7. This election is made without traverse. It is submitted that all of the pending claims, claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 12, 14-17 and 19-26, as amended herein, read on Species B.

The Examiner also indicates that Fig. 2 falls within Species A. Applicant respectfully submits that the locking mechanism shown in Fig. 2 is generic to all of the species identified by the Examiner. The Examiner also indicates that claims 1-4 as being generic. Applicant also respectfully submits, in addition to claims 1-3, that claims 5-7, 22 and 23 are generic to all species. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response to the Office Action has been made. The claims, as amended herein, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.


The Office Action indicates a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. However, as the Office Action is an Election of Species Requirement, it is believed that the period for reply should be one (1) month. Therefore, Applicants request a one (1) month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. A check for \$55.00 is enclosed.

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It is also submitted that no additional fees are required by the addition of newly added claims 21-16. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due as a result of this Response to Deposit Account 08-2442 of the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
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